

attached, and shut in by other houses in the street. Having abandoned all thought of this and of any place down town, a most eligible site was purchased on McTavish street adjoining McGill College, and plans and specifications of buildings were procured, the total cost, including the site, not to exceed thirty thousand dollars. Even this amount was regarded by some extravagant and far more than could be obtained. The progress of events and the enthusiasm and liberality of friends, however, soon proved this surmise to be incorrect. The proposed buildings, a picture of which appeared on the cover of the first Calendar, were not proceeded with, but far more complete and comprehensive plans were prepared and adopted, and in June, 1873, the Board reported to the General Assembly that the buildings according to the enlarged plans were in course of erection and would be finished in a few months, and that the sum of thirty thousand dollars for the payment of the same was subscribed. This amount was quite insufficient, and therefore the canvass for further subscriptions was prosecuted with energy and success; and, on the 28th day of October, 1873, the new buildings were formally opened. It was an occasion of great thankfulness and joy, with professors, students and citizens, in this respect, second only to other events of a similar nature of which we shall speak later. A large and representative meeting, including many of our chief benefactors, some of whom have been called to their reward, assembled to participate in the rejoicing. Distinguished persons from a distance, as well as in the city, added interest and eclat to the gathering. Principal Caven, of Knox College, Toronto; the Rev. Dr. Narayan Sheshadri, of India; the late Dr. Taylor, of Erskine Church, Montreal; the Honorable Judge Torrance and others took part in the proceedings. Principal MacVicar presided.

The buildings, which are of stone with slate roof, are in the Gothic style of architecture with slight touches of the Scottish baronial intermingled. They contain the Principal's residence, with lecture rooms, retiring rooms for professors, and studies and dormitories for students. These are all heated with hot water and well lighted and ventilated. But while beautiful in external proportions and in all respects substantial, the building was characterized by certain defects, some of which have since been remedied. It contained no proper dining-room or Convocation Hall, and no fire-proof vault for the safe-keeping of records and other valuables, and was far too small for the proper accommodation of the entire number of students even at that date. This was felt to be embarrassing, and fitted to hinder the extension of the work and usefulness of the institution. Temporary expedients were resorted to to meet the difficulty, but, as years passed and the steady growth of the College became more and more apparent, the matter was effectually taken in hand by the chairman of the Board of Man-